

1 **ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION**

2 **DOCKET NUMBER 12-0598**

3 **DIRECT TESTIMONY**

4 **OF**

5 **Intervener, Keith Flesner**

6 **Q:** Please state your name?

7 **A:** **Keith Flesner**

8 **Q:** Please state your current residence?

9 **A:** **118 High Street, Plainville, IL 62365**

10 **Q:** Please identify by street address and parcel number any real property in which you claim
11 an interest that will be affected by the proposed electric transmission line and related facilities
12 that are subject of Ameren Transmission Company of Illinois' ("ATXI") Petition currently before
13 the Illinois Commerce Commission?

14 **A:** **118 S. High Street, Plainville, IL 62365. PIN: 18-0-0269-000-00 a true, accurate,**
15 **and correct map of this parcel is attached hereto as Exhibit 1 (hereinafter referred to as the**
16 **"Property").**

17 **Q:** Please identify the nature of your interest in the Property?

18 **A:** **Owner of the Property.**

19 **Q:** How is the Property currently used?

20 **A:** **Agricultural farming of corn and soybeans.**

21 **Q:** Are there any building(s) and/or structure(s) on the Property?

22 **A:** **No.**

23 **Q:** Is there any revenue that is earned from the Property, if so what is the revenue?

24 **A:** **Yes. A corn crop can generate \$75,000.00.**

25 **Q:** What is the quality of the soil on the Property?

26 **A:** **The soil quality is good with a black dirt/clay mixture.**

27 **Q:** Is the property encumbered by any existing utility easement(s)?

28 **A:** **No.**

29 **Q:** Do you oppose the primary route proposed by ATXI?

30 **A:** **Yes.**

31 Q: What is the basis of your opposition to the primary route?

32 A: Based on my personal experience, if ATXI uses trucks and machines to drive over
33 the Property it will compact the soil. I am concerned that due to the clay mixture this
34 compaction could affect my yield for 20 years. Additionally, I have drainage tiles and a
35 pond where the proposed route will go directly over.

36 I spray fungicides from an airplane. There are trees along the sides of the property
37 which limits my flying space at this time. Transmission lines and towers will further
38 encumber my ability to fly over the property for aerial spraying. Furthermore, I have a
39 concern that the transmission line will impact my GPS. My GPS is based off of satellites,
40 and I believe that the currents from the line would impact the accuracy of the GPS signal.
41 I also believe that my swath control would be impacted, and my planting would then be
42 affected as there would be seed overlap causing loss of revenue for added seed costs.

43 Additionally, I have concerns about the placement of the towers and/or poles, and
44 weeds being allowed to grow which could infiltrate my crops. I am also concerned about
45 farming under high voltage lines. I have been shocked by lesser voltage lines when
46 working on combines and am extremely concerned about being electrocuted while working
47 underneath these powerful transmission lines. Furthermore, I am concerned about my
48 cattle and their willingness to drink from the water supply if they are being sent electrical
49 shocks through the water.

50 Finally, I have concerns about the devaluation of my farm. The placement of the
51 transmission lines could affect the value of the farm.

52 Q: What is the expected financial loss from the use of the Property as a result of the primary
53 route?

54 A: It varies. Compaction of the soil left over from the machinery and/or towers could
55 be \$5,000 per year from damaged soil for many years.

56 Q: What is the proximity of the building(s) and/or structure(s) on the Property to the primary
57 route proposed by ATXI?

58 A: None

59 Q: Are you in favor of ATXI utilizing existing right of ways for the ATXI transmission line?

60 A: Yes.

61 Q: Does this conclude your testimony?

62 A: Yes.

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69 STATE OF ILLINOIS)

70) SS

71 COUNTY OF ADAMS)

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73 Signed and Sworn to before me, a Notary in the County and State aforesaid by

74 Keith Flesner on this 28 day of March, 2013

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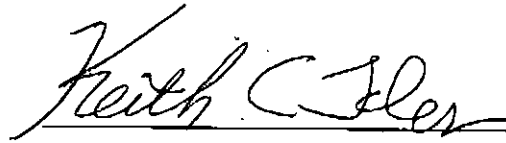
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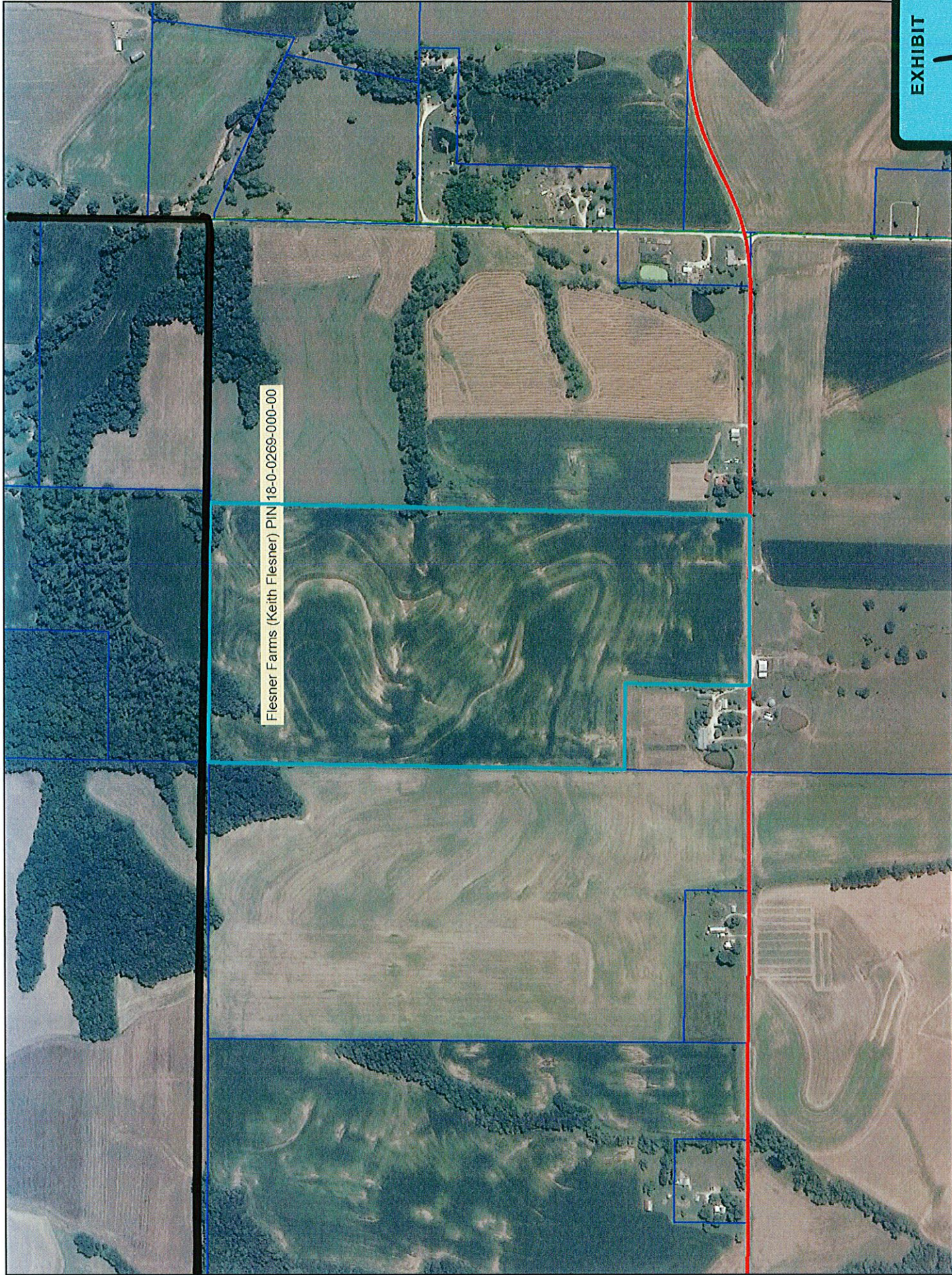
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KEITH FLESNER

NOTARY PUBLIC

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Flesner Farms (Keith Flesner) PIN 18-0-0269-000-00